

### **2010 National Fair Housing Collegiate Partnership**

In recognition of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, on January 18, 2010, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity (FHEO), will launch its first-ever National Fair Housing Collegiate Partnership on the campus of Tennessee State University in Nashville, TN. This education and outreach initiative will serve as a catalyst in the development of the next generation of leaders and activists in fair housing. This partnership is three-pronged: 1) To educate students about the Fair Housing Act and their rights under the law; (2) to develop service-learning opportunities with fair housing groups; and (3) To encourage students to consider public service as a career. Some outreach activities may include:

- **Fair Housing seminars.** The Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity (FHEO) and its Fair Housing partners to conduct seminars at local colleges and universities across the country;
- **Regional Fair Housing Events.** Invite colleges and universities to attend and participate in our national Fair Housing Month events in April and policy conferences;
- **Fair Housing Information Posted at College/University Departments.** Providing fair housing information to the Heads of Departments/Schools that focus on civil rights, public policy, civic engagement, student housing, etc. and campus housing offices;
- **Employment Announcements.** Sending job announcements to career development centers; and/or
- **Social Networking Websites.** Establishing a Facebook page for this Initiative.

Following are strategies that colleges/universities may use to further fair housing:

- **Proclamation between FHEO and College President/Chancellor.** Signing a proclamation to demonstrate a commitment to partnering with HUD-FHEO in this Initiative;
- **Providing a Venue for FHEO and Fair Housing Partners on Campus.** Inviting FHEO staff and fair housing partners to address their students about Fair Housing;
- **Making Fair Housing Information Available to Students.** Making Fair Housing information available to the students via websites or in their career centers, student housing offices, and student information boards and kiosks;
- **Encouraging faculty and staff to post HUD Job Opportunities.** Encouraging faculty and staff to post job announcements outside of student unions, academic advisors' offices, career services centers, lecture halls, and similar locations;
- **FHEO participation in College Job Fairs.** Inviting HUD staff to participate in college job fairs;
- **Future Development of Fair Housing Curriculum.** Possible future discussions of a fair housing curriculum for pre-law, history, public policy, African American history, ethnic studies, women's history, political science, public administration, and other related disciplines; and
- **Access to Campus Journalists.** Allowing FHEO access to campus journalists to conduct interviews and publish articles increasing awareness of fair housing.

FHEO Assistant Secretary John Trasviña will travel across the country over the next 12 months visiting the campuses of numerous colleges and universities. This partnership is designed to promote fair housing and educate students about the rights under the federal Fair Housing Act, which states prohibits discrimination in housing based on race, color, national origin, sex, religion, families with children, or disability. In February, AS Trasviña will travel to Harvard University where he will discuss fair housing to

students at the Kennedy School. In March and April (Fair Housing Month), he plans to visit colleges and universities in Iowa, Washington, Texas, and California. He would like to add more colleges and universities to his schedule; he encourages interested schools to contact his staff for more information.

FHEO and its partners in the Fair Housing Assistance Program investigate over 10,000 housing discrimination complaints annually. Students who believe they are victims of housing discrimination should contact HUD at 1-800-669-9777 (voice), 800-927-9275 (TTY). If you would like more information about the National Fair Housing Collegiate Partnership, please contact DeAndra Johnson Cullen, Senior Executive Advisor to the Assistant Secretary at (202)708-4252 or Adrienne Lewis, Special Assistant, Office of Policy, Legislative Initiatives, and Outreach at (202) 402-6910. Additional information about FHEO is available at [www.hud.gov/fairhousing](http://www.hud.gov/fairhousing).